

COPY

August 19, 1914.

Dear Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 27th, inclosing a list of the mountain peaks in Colorado which exceed 14,000 feet in altitude:

In reply to your inquiry as to a book of rules or standards adopted by the United States Geographic Board in regard to the definition of a mountain peak, I regret to state that the Board has never set a standard or outlined the conditions which would justify the name of peak being established for a mountain. There are a number of small mountains in the country that have well-established names in which "peak" has been made a part of the name. The Board does not feel like changing these designations as they seem to be well fixed in local usage.

The Board adjourned on June 7th to October 4th, so that no positive action can be taken at present. Your inquiry will be laid before the Board at the next meeting and you will be advised as to the action taken.

The name Mt. Massive which heads the list which you inclosed, was assigned to the mountain many years ago by Dr. Henry Gannett, one of the original members, and for many years the Chairman of the United States Geographic Board. Much of his early work as a topographer of the United States Surveys was performed in Colorado and in the country adjacent to

Mt. Massive. The Board is contemplating establishing the name Gannett for Mt. Massive, and we would like to ascertain through your Club as to whether or not there would be serious objection or opposition to such a change. Henry Gannett was a pioneer surveyor and later one of the most widely known geographers of the United States, and it is only just to assign his name to this mountain, which he has plotted in his earliest work in Colorado/ I should think, therefore, that our action would not be as objectionable as it would be to establish the name of some person who had never in any way been connected with the prominent mountain or your state.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

Mr. Roger W. Toll,  
Vice-President, Colorado Mountain Club,  
Tramway Building,  
Denver, Colorado.